

When trust fails: Interactions between Chinese and Nigerians |

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Abstract

This paper examines the nature of interracial relations between Chinese migrants and Nigerians who interact with them, using data from ethnographic observations and in-depth interviews. These relationships are found to be characterized by mutual distrust at the interpersonal and governmental level. Chinese migrants discuss the challenges they face in doing business in Nigeria, leading to ambivalent views of Nigerians and other Africans and transitoriness. The relationships being negotiated between the two groups mirror macro-level views of China's presence in Africa.

Biography

Onoso Imoagene is Associate Professor of Social Research and Public Policy, at New York University Abu Dhabi. Her main research areas are international migration and race and ethnicity, with a special focus on first- and second-generation African immigrants in several national diasporas including the British and American Diasporas. Her first book, *Beyond Expectations: Second Generation Nigerians in the United States and Britain*, published by the University of California Press, is the first book-length comparative study on second generation African adults in Britain and the United States. Her second book *Structured Luck: Downstream Effects of the U.S. Diversity Immigrant Visa Program*, published by Russell Sage, examines the policy interventions of the US Diversity Visa Lottery program and will be out in April 2024. She has started two new projects on Chinese migrants in several African countries and African female entrepreneurs in China.